

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Kohtaro SABE et al.
Serial No. : Continuation of Application Serial No. 09/743,290
Filed : Herewith
Title : IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS, ROBOT
APPARATUS AND IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD
Group Art Unit : To Be Assigned
Examiner : To Be Assigned



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New York, NY 10151

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Date of Deposit: December 18, 2001

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The Examiner's attention is invited to the following documents which are set forth in the accompanying form PTO-1449. Since these documents were forwarded to or cited by the Examiner in the predecessor application and a copy of each of these documents should be in the

predecessor application file, no additional copy is being forwarded with this Information Disclosure Statement.

This Information Disclosure Statement is not a representation that the cited documents considered most pertinent, or that a search has been undertaken, or that any of the cited documents are indeed prior art. The Examiner is invited to undertake an independent search.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider and make of record the cited documents and that a copy of Form PTO-1449, initialed by the Examiner be returned to applicants' attorneys.

It is believed that no fees are required by the instant submission as it is prior to receipt of the first Office Action in this application. However, if any fees are required, or if any overpayment has been made, please charge Deposit Acct. No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP
Attorney for Applicants

By: 

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Enc. - Form PTO 1449

Based on Form PTO-1449 (3/90) LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)				ATTY. DOCKET NO. 450108-02493.1		SERIAL NO. To Be Assigned	
				APPLICANT Kohtaro SABE.			
				FILING DATE Herewith		GROUP To Be Assigned	

U.S. PTO
 10/023625
 12/18/01

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	4,805,226	02/199	Guebey			
	AB	0018640 A1	08/2001	Matsunuga			
	AC	0021882 A1	09/2001	Hosonuma et al.			
	AD	0020837 A1	09/2001	Yamashita et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	AE	JP 8-297585	11/12/96	Japan				
	AF	JP 8-272675	10/18/96	Japan				
	AG	JP 6-229941	08/19/94	Japan				
	AH							
	AI							
	AJ							
	AK							
	AL							
	AM							

OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)			
	AN		Ishikawa et al., A CMOS Vision Chip with SIMD Processing Element Array for 1mns Image Processing, 1999, IEEE, pp. 206-207
	AO		Astley et al., Design Constraints for Haptic Surgery Simulation, 2000, IEEE, pp. 2446-2451
	AP		Rosen et al., Markov Modeling of Minimally Invasive Surgery Based on Tool/Tissue Interaction and Force/Torque Signatures for Evaluating Surgical Skill, 2001, IEEE, pp. 579-591

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.